

Application No.: 10/501126
Docket No.: BA9297USPCT

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REMARKS

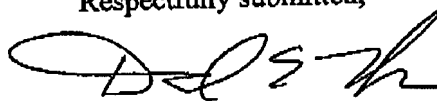
The Office Action maintained that this application contained twelve inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. Applicants were required to elect a single invention grouping.

Applicants elect Group II (claims 1, 2 and 6-11, all partially, and claims 4 and 5 both complete). However, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the division of claims. Applicants note that Groups I through IX all involve combinations that include a component (a) compound; and Applicants submit that a search for advantageous combinations involving component (a) compounds might provide for efficient examination of all of these groups. At any rate, Applicants submit that Claim 7 should be completely included in Group II since at least one compound selected from (b2) is included in the composition.

New Claim 17 has been added to emphasize a particular component (a) compound (see e.g., page 12, line 12 and Compound 1, Index Table A, page 50). In light of the requirement to elect an invention grouping, Applicants have also added new claims 18 through 22. Applicants note that Compound 1 of Index Table A is included as component (a) in Claim 18. Applicants further note, for example, page 41, lines 24-26 in connection with Claim 18, page 38, line 11 in connection with Claim 19, page 38, lines 22-23 in connection with Claim 20, page 42, lines 9-14 in connection with Claim 21 and page 40, lines 11-25 in connection with Claim 22. Claims 13 and 15 are being cancelled without prejudice to limit the total number of pending claims to twenty.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: MAY 9, 2007

BA9297US PCT AMENDMENT